

## Registration form for Polish research institution

1. Research institution data (name and address):

Uniwersytet Łódzki, Centrum Badań nad Historią i Kulturą Basenu Morza Śródziemnego i Europy Południowo-Wschodniej im. prof. Waldemara Cerana, *Ceraneum*

University of Łódź, Waldemar Ceran Research Center for the History and Culture of the Mediterranean Area and South-East Europe, *Ceraneum*

Matejki 32/38, 90-237 Łódź, Poland

+48 42 635 64 88; +48 42 665 50 01

[ceraneum@uni.lodz.pl](mailto:ceraneum@uni.lodz.pl)

ceraneum.uni.lodz.pl

2. Type of research institution<sup>1</sup>:

1) higher education institution

3. Head of the institution:

Prof. dr. hab. Zbigniew Kmiecik, Vice-Rector for Research at the University of Łódź

Dr. hab. Ivan Petrov, prof. UŁ, Director of *Ceraneum*

4. Contact information of designated person(s) for applicants and the NCN: first and last name, position, e-mail address, phone number, correspondence address:

dr Zofia Brzozowska

Research Projects Coordinator at *Ceraneum*

[zofia.brzozowska@uni.lodz.pl](mailto:zofia.brzozowska@uni.lodz.pl)

+48 42 635 67 70

Matejki 32/38, 90-237 Łódź, Poland

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<sup>1</sup> As specified in "Addressees of the call"

5. Research discipline in which the strong international position of the institution ensures establishing a Dioscuri Centre:

Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences

X The study of the human past

6. Description of important research achievements from the selected discipline from the last 5 years including a list of the most important publications, patents, other (*up to one page in A4 format*):

**1. Research on Byzantine-Islamic contacts and the image of Muslims in Byzantine-Slavic culture**, involving major international collaboration, conducted by an interdisciplinary team led by **Prof. Teresa Wolińska** and including **Dr. Paweł Filipczak** as well as **Dr. Zofia Brzozowska**. The research was supported by a range of grants from external institutions, including the National Science Centre:

- HARMONIA 2, HS3, *Byzantium and the Arabs. The Meeting of Civilizations from 6<sup>th</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup> Century* (2012/04/M/HS3/00564). The key publications resulting from the grant included: *Byzantium and the Arabs: The Encounter of Civilizations from Sixth to Mid-Eighth Century*, eds. T. Wolińska, P. Filipczak, Łódź 2015, pp. 628 [monograph in English]; P. Filipczak, *An introduction to the Byzantine administration in Syro-Palestine on the eve of the Arab conquest*, Łódź 2015, pp. 152 [monograph in English]; *Bizancjum i Arabowie. Spotkanie cywilizacji. VI–VIII w.*, eds. T. Wolińska, P. Filipczak, PWN, Warszawa 2015, pp. 652 [monograph in Polish]
- OPUS 12, HS3, *Muhammad and the Origin of Islam - Stereotypes, Knowledge and Notions in the Byzantine-Russian Culture* (2016/23/B/HS3/01891) – described in section 7.

**2. Interdisciplinary Paleoslavist and codicological research conducted in cooperation with academics representing ST disciplines** (Natural Sciences and Technology), namely IT specialists from the Faculty of Physics and Applied Informatics of UŁ. The research has been funded by the Ministry of Science and Higher Education through the National Programme for the Development of Humanities. The team is led by **dr Zofia Brzozowska** and also includes an employee of *Ceraneum*. Part of the platform ***Mapping Eastern Europe in the 13<sup>th</sup>–17<sup>th</sup> Centuries*** (2020 Rapid Response Magic Project of the Princeton University Humanities Council): [mappingeasterneurope.princeton.edu/item/the-novgorod-first-chronicle-polish-translation.html](http://mappingeasterneurope.princeton.edu/item/the-novgorod-first-chronicle-polish-translation.html). The project results are:

- Digitalization: <http://ki.wfi.uni.lodz.pl/ceraneum/latopis/html/index.html>

- Z.A. Brzozowska, I.N. Petrov, *Latopis nowogrodzki pierwszy starszej redakcji. Unikatowy zabytek piśmiennictwa staroruskiego i jego polski przekład*, Łódź 2019.
- Z.A. Brzozowska, M.J. Leszka, *Nowogród Wielki. Historyczno-kulturowy przewodnik po średniowiecznej republice*, Łódź 2019.

3. **Research on the literary tradition of the *Slavia Orthodoxa* sphere and its reception in Poland**, conducted by a team of Paleoslavists led by **Dr. hab. Ivan Petrov, prof. UŁ**. Among numerous scholars from diverse academic centres in Poland, the team also includes employees of *Ceraneum*. The research received various external institution funding (e.g. National Science Centre: SONATA BIS, PRELUDIUM; Ministry of Science and Higher Education through the National Programme for the Development of Humanities; HORIZON 2020, Research Infrastructure on Religious Studies – RelReS, Transnational Access to Special Collections and Archival Documents – TAAD; European Regional Development Fund, ERDF).

4. Research project of the National Science Centre (OPUS 16, HS3), entitled ***Eastern Roman Military Elites from Theodosius II to Anastasius I (408-518). A Socio-Political Study***, carried out in the *Ceraneum* Centre by a team led by Prof. dr hab. Mirosław J. Leszka (2019–2022). Expected results: two book publications and series of articles.

7. List of no more than 3 important research projects from the selected discipline awarded in national and international calls to the institution in the last 5 years (title, name of PI, source of funding, amount of funding):

1.

- Project title: *The Bulgarian State in 927–969. The Epoch of Tsar Peter I the Pious* (2014/14/M/HS3/00758)
- Principal Investigator: Prof. Mirosław J. Leszka
- Source of funding: National Science Centre (HARMONIA 6, HS3)
- Amount of funding: 342 322 PLN

The project was conducted at *Ceraneum* in collaboration with the **University of Sofia (Bulgaria)** (27.04.2015–26.04.2018). The Polish team consisted of *Ceraneum* employees and affiliates from the Faculty of Philosophy and History and Faculty of Philology, University of Łódź. The most important publications based on the grant include:

- *The Bulgarian State in 927–969. The Epoch of Tsar Peter I*, ed. M.J. Leszka, K. Marinow, Łódź 2018, pp. 688 [co-published by Columbia University Press]

- Z.A. Brzozowska, M.J. Leszka, *Maria Lekapene. Not a Saint nor a Malefactress*, Łódź 2017, pp. 236 [co-published by Columbia University Press]
- Z.A. Brzozowska, Mirosław J. Leszka, Kiril Marinow, *Piotr I Święty, car bułgarski (ok. 912–969). Maria Lekapena, caryca bułgarska (ok. 912–?963)*, Kraków: AVALON 2018
- articles in internationally renowned journals.

## 2.

- Project title: *Dualist Heresies in the History of South-East Europe (9<sup>th</sup>–15<sup>th</sup> century)* (2016/22/M/HS3/00212)
- Principal Investigator: Prof. Georgi Minczew
- Source of funding: National Science Centre (HARMONIA 8, HS3)
- Amount of funding: 369 928,00 PLN

The project is carried out by a team consisting of *Ceraneum* employees and affiliates in collaboration with the **Bulgarian Academy of Sciences in Sofia (Bulgaria)** and **Ca' Foscari University of Venice (Italy)** (27.03.2017–26.03.2021). Part of the platform ***Mapping Eastern Europe in the 13<sup>th</sup>–17<sup>th</sup> Centuries*** (2020 Rapid Response Magic Project of the Princeton University Humanities Council, USA): [mappingeasterneurope.princeton.edu/item/dualist-heresies-in-the-history-of-south-east-euro.html](http://mappingeasterneurope.princeton.edu/item/dualist-heresies-in-the-history-of-south-east-euro.html)

The most important publications based on the grant include:

- G. Minczew (ed.), M. Tsibranska, I. Biliarsky, *Panoply in Defense of Orthodoxy (The Case of Moldavian Manuscript BAR Ms. Slav. 636, 16<sup>th</sup> Century)*, Łódź 2021 [to be published].
- A. Maciejewska, G. Minczew, J.M. Wolski, *Średniowieczne herezje dualistyczne na Bałkanach. Źródła greckie*, Łódź 2021 [to be published].
- articles in internationally renowned journals.

## 3.

- Project title: *Muhammad and the Origin of Islam - Stereotypes, Knowledge and Notions in the Byzantine-Russian Culture* (2016/23/B/HS3/01891)
- Principal Investigator: dr Zofia Brzozowska
- Source of funding: National Science Centre (OPUS 12, HS3)

- Amount of funding: 371 600 PLN

The project is carried out by a team consisting of *Ceraneum* affiliates from the Faculty of Philosophy and History and Faculty of Philology, University of Łódź (6.07.2017–5.07.2021). Part of the platform ***Mapping Eastern Europe in the 13th–17th Centuries*** (2020 Rapid Response Magic Project of the Princeton University Humanities Council, USA): [mappingeasterneurope.princeton.edu/item/muhammad-and-the-origin-of-islam-stereotypes-qn.html](http://mappingeasterneurope.princeton.edu/item/muhammad-and-the-origin-of-islam-stereotypes-qn.html)

The most important publications based on the grant include:

- *Widmo Mahometa, cień Samuela. Cesarstwo bizantyńskie w relacji z przedstawicielami innych religii i kultur (VII–XV wiek)*, ed. Z.A. Brzozowska, M.J. Leszka, K. Marinow, T. Wolińska, Łódź 2020, pp. 380
- Z.A. Brzozowska, M.J. Leszka, T. Wolińska, *Muhammad and the Origin of Islam in the Byzantine-Slavic Literary Context. A Bibliographical History*, Łódź–Kraków 2020 [co-published by Columbia University Press, to be published]
- articles in internationally renowned journals.

8. Description of the available laboratory and office space for the *Dioscuri Centre* (up to one page in A4 format):

*Ceraneum* has at its disposal dedicated office space suitable for the needs of a research center engaging in international collaboration. The Centre also has access to a number of offices and lecture halls in the historic early 20<sup>th</sup>-century palace of Alfred Biedermann, used for holding conferences, seminars, open lectures and meetings of *Ceraneum* affiliates. The director of the *Dioscuri Centre* can be allotted a separate office. Finally, *Ceraneum* can use office and teaching space provided by the Faculty of Philosophy and History as well as the Faculty of Philology of the University of Łódź.

One of the Centre's strongest asset is its specialized, Byzantinological-Paleoslavist library. Founded in 2011 on the basis of the private collection of Prof. Waldemar Ceran, nowadays it encompasses over 6000 titles related to Byzantinological and Paleoslavist studies and related disciplines. It is without any doubt the largest collection of this kind in Poland. In both of the above-mentioned domains, *Ceraneum* not only boasts an ample collection of specialist journals, books and source texts, but also provides access to numerous reference databases, including the *Thesaurus Linguae Graece*. In conjunction with the technical and infrastructural support from of the Library of the University of Łódź, it contributes a superb setting for conducting research in the disciplines of Byzantinology and Paleoslavistics.

9. List of the available research equipment for the Dioscuri Centre:

Electronic equipment currently at the disposal of *Ceraneum*:

1. desktop computers including peripheral devices and software;
2. portable (laptop) computers including peripheral devices and software;
3. black and white laser printer;
4. multi-function device (colour printer, scanner, copier);
5. video projector with screen.

The unit with accompanying equipment is to be used for research and project administration. Besides providing the main access gate to the database stored on its hard drive, it will also be utilized for working on photographic data and for the editing of the final books. Additional software (depending on the characteristics of the final purchases) is required for: obtaining a professional level of security of the collected data (anti-virus software), photographic material processing (graphics software), format conversion, final text editing (Microsoft Office), etc.

Equipment belonging to the Department of Byzantine History (Faculty of Philosophy and History, UŁ) and the Department of Slavic Philology (Faculty of Philology, UŁ) can also be used. Furthermore, *Ceraneum* employees have access to the equipment of the Library of the University of Łódź.

10. List of the additional benefits (other than listed in call text) that the Institution declares to provide for the Dioscuri Centre (i.e.: additional funds, personal benefits, other) (*up to one page in A4 format*):

- Professional technical and organizational support for the prospective director of the *Dioscuri* Centre and their staff members, both during the preparation of the grant application and during the commencement, conducting, reporting and accounting for the project. The employees and affiliates of *Ceraneum* have plentiful experience in applying for grants awarded by the National Science Centre (HARMONIA, BEETHOVEN CLASSIC, OPUS, SONATA BIS, SONATA, SONATINA, PRELUDIUM, ETIUDA, MINIATURA), Ministry of Science and Higher Education (National Programme for the Development of Humanities; PLUS programmes), Foundation for Polish Science as well as local grant awarders (the Mayor's Office of the City of Łódź and the Marshal's Office of the Łódź Voivodeship). *Ceraneum* boasts a grant application success rate of ca. 40% (compared to the national average of ca. 20%). Scholars affiliated with the Centre have also been effective in applying for EU funds: HORIZON2020 Research and Innovation Programme (HERA consortium: *Humanities in the European Research Area*; Research Infrastructure on Religious Studies – RelReS, Transnational Access to Special Collections and Archival

Documents – TAAD); the European Regional Development Fund, ERDF. During the grant application stage, *Ceraneum* benefits from the support of qualified specialists employed at the University of Łódź, primarily at its Science Centre.

- *Ceraneum* is a dynamically developing research centre, currently having at its disposal its own academic staff and administrative network. The unit employs young scholars having (or in the course of obtaining) a PhD degree. Furthermore, *Ceraneum* benefits from technical support by experienced researchers employed at the Faculty of Philosophy and History, UŁ and the Faculty of Philology, UŁ.
- Publishing base – the results of the research conducted in the *Dioscuri* Centre may be conveniently published in *Studia Ceranea*, the specialist journal associated with *Ceraneum*, as well as in the *Series Ceranea* monograph series. *Ceraneum* is able to offer support at the stage of editing and serve as an intermediary in dealing with publishers.
- Conference base – the employees and affiliates of *Ceraneum* are experienced international conference organizers: since 2011, the Centre has hosted or co-hosted a total of 15 events of this kind (i.a. *Colloquia Ceranea*). Moreover, *Ceraneum* has at its disposal conference space and equipment fully suitable for organizing international-level meetings.
- The Regional EURAXESS Service Centre established at the University of Łódź as a part of Polish EURAXESS Services network will provide free and personalised assistance to the researcher and his family in various matters relating to professional and daily life. The European Commission awarded University of Łódź with **HR Excellence in Research logo** and thus acknowledged the institution and its activities, achievements and plans aiming at ensuring favorable conditions for the HR development, in particular the development of researchers.

11. Other information about the internationalisation of the research institution, international researchers employed at the institution, the availability of English language seminars etc. (*up to one page in A4 format*):

- The scholarly level and the objects of the research conducted are supervised by the **International Advisory Board of *Ceraneum***. The board includes several dozen distinguished scholars from various Polish and European research centres (University of Manchester, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, Bulgarian Academy of Sciences, Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität München, Università Degli Studi di Firenze, Univerzita Karlova v Praze, Slovanský ústav Akademie věd ČR, Corpus Christi College, Oxford University, Université Paris I, Fondazione per le Scienze Religiose, Johann

Wolfgang Goethe-Universität Frankfurt am Main, University of Maryland, St. Clement of Ohrid University of Sofia, Pontificio Ateneo S. Anselmo, University of Belgrade, University Ca' Foscari in Venice, Saint Petersburg State University, University of London, Dipartimento di Filologia e Critica della Letteratura, École pratique des Hautes Études).

- „**Studia Ceranea. Journal of the Waldemar Ceran Research Centre for the History and Culture of the Mediterranean Area and South-East Europe**” (ISSN 2084–140X, eISSN 2449-8378, DOI 10.18778/2084-140X) is the centre’s flagship periodical. *Studia Ceranea* being designed as an international journal, contributions in the standard conference languages (English, French, German, Russian and Italian) are accepted. The journal publishes papers pertaining to the history of the Mediterranean and Slavic area within the chronological limits from the 1<sup>st</sup> through the 17<sup>th</sup> century CE. *Studia Ceranea* is indexed in the following databases (bibliographic, abstract and full-text): **Web of Science™ Core Collection**, **SCOPUS**, EBSCOhost research databases; Slavic Humanities Index; European Reference Index for the Humanities and the Social Sciences (**ERIH PLUS**); Central and Eastern European Online Library (CEEOL); Central European Journal Of Social Sciences and Humanities (CEJSH).
- **Erasmus Partner Universities:** Czech Republic – Charles University (CZ PRAHA07); Bulgaria: Bulgarian Academy of Sciences (BG SOFIA30); Veliko Tarnovo University “Cyril and Methodius” (BG VELIKO01); University of Plovdiv (BG PLOVDIV04); Germany – Albert-Ludwigs-Universität Freiburg (D FREIBUR01); Slovenia: University of Primorska (SI KOPER0); University of Ljubljana (SI LJUBLJA01); Turkey – Suleyman Demirel University (TR ISPARTA01); Italy – Università Degli Studi di Firenze (I FIRENZE01) & Università Degli Studi di Napoli “l’Orientale” (I NAPOLI02).
- In December 2015, *Ceraneum* was invited to join the **International Research Network Pax Byzantino-Slava**. Currently, the Network comprises many research centers, institutes, academies, departments and associations from Bulgaria, Greece, Georgia, Poland, Russia, Serbia, Switzerland and Italy (<http://paxbyzantinoslava.com/>).